BACKGROUND: *Resources may be assigned one or more genre/form terms and may or may not be classified according to Library of Congress Classification (LCC), Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC), or another classification scheme. When assigned, the classification number may reflect the predominant genre or form of the resource instead of, or in addition to, the subject of the resource. In many cases, though, there may not be an exact match between the genre/form term(s) assigned and the classification number.*

This instruction sheet provides guidelines on the order of genre/form terms when multiple terms are assigned to a resource.

1. General rule. Assign as the first genre/form term the one that represents the predominant genre or form of a resource.

If the predominant genre or form cannot be represented by a single term, assign as the first and second terms the two terms that, taken together, express the predominant genre or form. *Examples:*

> *Title:* `Inside out & back again.`
> *Terms:* `Novels in verse.`
> `Interviews.`
> *[A novel in verse that includes an interview with the author; the novel in verse predominates]*

> *Title:* `Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg.`
> *Terms:* `Operas.`
> `Live sound recordings.`
> `Librettos.`
> *[A recording of an opera performance issued with a booklet containing the libretto; the recording of the opera predominates and is represented with the first two terms considered together]*

> *Title:* `1,000 years, 1,999 people : ranking the men and women who shaped the millennium.`
> *Terms:* `Biographies.`
> `Dictionaries.`
> *[Rather than a term such as* Biographical dictionaries*, two separate terms are assigned to express the form]*

1. General rule. *(Continued)*

If a resource is being assigned a classification number and the number reflects the genre or form of the resource, record that genre/form term first. *Examples:*

> *Title:* Lawyers: jokes, quotes, and anecdotes.
> *Terms:* Humor.
>   Quotations.
>   Anecdotes.
>   *[Classified as humor in K184]*

> *Title:* Proceedings of the … International Symposium on Asian Studies.
> *Terms:* Conference papers and proceedings.
>   Serial publications.
>   *[Classified in DS1.5, a number for congresses, rather than in DS1, for serials]*

2. Resources without a predominant genre or form. If the resource 1) does not have a predominant genre or form, *and* 2) is not classified in a number that reflects a genre or form, then assign appropriate terms for genres and forms that are judged to be significant in the order that is considered to be most useful. *Examples:*

> *Title:* Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix.
> *Terms:* Fantasy films.
>   Fiction films.
>   Film adaptations.

> *Title:* The symphonies, the piano concertos, the violin concerto, 3 overtures.
> *Terms:* Symphonies.
>   Concertos.
>   Overtures.

3. Resources containing separate parts. If the resource is assigned genre/form terms representing the whole resource and also terms for parts of that resource (see J 110), prefer to assign the terms representing the whole before those representing the parts.   *Example:*

> *Title:*   Three plays.
> *Terms:*   Drama.
>   Farces.
>   Problem plays.
>   Comedy plays.
>> *[The first term assigned, **Drama**, represents the entire resource. The remaining terms represent the individual plays, **Farces** for* The magistrate*; **Problem plays** for* The second Mrs. Tanqueray*; and **Comedy plays** for* Trelawny of the "Wells."*]*

For information on MARC coding that may be used to indicate which term applies to which work, see J 105 sec. 1.b.